# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE WESTERN DIVISION

Tamika	Scott a.k.a.
Tamika	Harris,

Case No.:

Plaintiff,

VS.

**JURY DEMAND** 

Equifax Information Services, LLC, a Georgia limited liability company, Trans Union, LLC, an Illinois limited liability company, and First Premier Bank, a foreign bank,

Defendants.

#### **COMPLAINT**

NOW COMES THE PLAINTIFF, TAMIKA SCOTT a.k.a. TAMIKA HARRIS, BY AND THROUGH COUNSEL, and for her Complaint against the Defendants, pleads as follows:

# **JURISDICTION**

- 1. Jurisdiction of this court arises under 15 U.S.C. §1681p.
- 2. This is an action brought by a consumer for violation of the Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. §1681, et seq. [hereinafter "FCRA"]).

#### **VENUE**

- 3. The transactions and occurrences which give rise to this action occurred in the City of Memphis, Shelby County, Tennessee.
- 4. Venue is proper in the Western District of Tennessee, Western Division.

#### **PARTIES**

- 5. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in City of Memphis, Shelby County, Tennessee.
- 6. Defendant Equifax Information Services, LLC ("Equifax") is a Georgia limited liability company that conducts business in the State of Tennessee.
- 7. Defendant Trans Union, LLC ("Trans Union") is an Illinois limited liability company that conducts business in the State of Tennessee.
- 8. Defendant First Premier Bank ("First Premier") is a foreign bank that conducts business in the State of Tennessee.

# **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 9. First Premier is inaccurately reporting its Tradelines ("Errant Tradelines") on Plaintiff's Equifax and Trans Union credit files with an erroneous notation of "account in dispute."
- 10. Plaintiff no longer disputes the Errant Tradelines.

- 11.On March 24, 2020, Plaintiff obtained her Equifax and Trans Union credit disclosures and noticed the Errant Tradelines reporting with a notation of "account in dispute."
- 12.On or about May 14, 2020, Plaintiff submitted a letter to Equifax and Trans
  Union requesting the credit bureaus remove the notation of "account in dispute."
- 13. Equifax and Trans Union forwarded Plaintiff's consumer dispute to First Premier. Frist Premier received Plaintiff's consumer dispute from Equifax and Trans Union.
- 14. Equifax, Trans Union and First Premier did not consult the Credit Reporting Resource Guide as part of its investigation of Plaintiff's dispute.
- 15. Plaintiff had not received Equifax's nor Trans Union's investigation results.

  Therefore, on June 29, 2020, Plaintiff obtained her Equifax and Trans Union credit disclosures, which showed that Equifax, Trans Union and First

  Premier failed or refused to remove the notation of "account in dispute."
- 16.As a direct and proximate cause of the Defendants' negligent and/or willful failure to comply with the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq., Plaintiff has suffered credit and emotional damages. Plaintiff has also experienced undue stress and anxiety due to Defendants' failure to correct the errors in her credit files or improve her financial situation by obtaining new

or more favorable credit terms as a result of the Defendants' violations of the FCRA.

#### **COUNT I**

# NEGLIGENT VIOLATION OF THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT BY FIRST PREMIER

- 17. Plaintiff realleges the above paragraphs as if recited verbatim.
- 18. After being informed by Equifax and Trans Union of Plaintiff's consumer dispute of the erroneous notation, First Premier negligently failed to conduct a proper investigation of Plaintiff's dispute as required by 15 USC 1681s-2(b).
- 19. First Premier negligently failed to review all relevant information available to it and provided by Equifax and Trans Union in conducting its reinvestigation as required by 15 USC 1681s-2(b). Specifically, it failed to direct Equifax and Trans Union to remove the notation of "account in dispute."
- 20. The Errant Tradelines are inaccurate and create a misleading impression on Plaintiff's consumer credit files with Equifax and Trans Union to which it is reporting such Tradelines.
- 21.As a direct and proximate cause of First Premier's negligent failure to perform its duties under the FCRA, Plaintiff has suffered damages, mental anguish, suffering, humiliation, and embarrassment.

- 22. First Premier is liable to Plaintiff by reason of its violations of the FCRA in an amount to be determined by the trier fact together with reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 USC 1681o.
- 23. Plaintiff has a private right of action to assert claims against First Premier arising under 15 USC 1681s-2(b).

#### **COUNT II**

# WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT BY FIRST PREMIER

- 24. Plaintiff realleges the above paragraphs as if recited verbatim.
- 25. After being informed by Equifax and Trans Union that Plaintiff disputed the accuracy of the information it was providing, First Premier willfully failed to conduct a proper reinvestigation of Plaintiff's dispute.
- 26. First Premier willfully failed to review all relevant information available to it and provided by Equifax and Trans Union as required by 15 USC 1681s-2(b).
- 27. As a direct and proximate cause of Frist Premier's willful failure to perform its duties under the FCRA, Plaintiff has suffered damages, mental anguish, suffering, humiliation, and embarrassment.

28. First Premier is liable to Plaintiff for either statutory damages or actual damages she has sustained by reason of its violations of the FCRA in an amount to be determined by the trier fact, together with an award of punitive damages in the amount to be determined by the trier of fact, as well as for reasonable attorneys' fees that he may recover pursuant to 15 USC 1681n.

### **COUNT III**

# NEGLIGENT VIOLATION OF THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT BY EQUIFAX

- 29. Plaintiff realleges the above paragraphs as if recited verbatim.
- 30.Defendant Equifax prepared, compiled, issued, assembled, transferred, published, and otherwise reproduced consumer reports regarding Plaintiff as that term is defined in 15 USC 1681a.
- 31. Such reports contained information about Plaintiff that was false, misleading, and inaccurate.
- 32. Equifax negligently failed to maintain and/or follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of the information it reported to one or more third parties pertaining to Plaintiff, in violation of 15 USC 1681e(b).
- 33. After receiving Plaintiff's consumer dispute to the Errant Tradeline, Equifax negligently failed to conduct a reasonable reinvestigation as required by 15 U.S.C. 1681i.

- 34.As a direct and proximate cause of Equifax's negligent failure to perform its duties under the FCRA, Plaintiff has suffered actual damages, mental anguish and suffering, humiliation, and embarrassment.
- 35. Equifax is liable to Plaintiff by reason of its violation of the FCRA in an amount to be determined by the trier fact together with her reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 USC 1681o.

#### **COUNT IV**

# WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT BY EQUIFAX

- 36. Plaintiff realleges the above paragraphs as if recited verbatim.
- 37.Defendant Equifax prepared, compiled, issued, assembled, transferred, published, and otherwise reproduced consumer reports regarding Plaintiff as that term is defined in 15 USC 1681a.
- 38. Such reports contained information about Plaintiff that was false, misleading, and inaccurate.
- 39. Equifax willfully failed to maintain and/or follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of the information that it reported to one or more third parties pertaining to Plaintiff, in violation of 15 USC 1681e(b).

- 40. After receiving Plaintiff's consumer dispute to the Errant Tradeline, Equifax willfully failed to conduct a reasonable reinvestigation as required by 15 U.S.C. 1681i.
- 41.As a direct and proximate cause of Equifax's willful failure to perform its duties under the FCRA, Plaintiff has suffered actual damages, mental anguish and suffering, humiliation, and embarrassment.
- 42. Equifax is liable to Plaintiff by reason of its violations of the FCRA in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact together with her reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 USC 1681n.

# **COUNT V**

### NEGLIGENT VIOLATION OF THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT BY TRANS UNION

- 43. Plaintiff realleges the above paragraphs as if recited verbatim.
- 44.Defendant Trans Union prepared, compiled, issued, assembled, transferred, published, and otherwise reproduced consumer reports regarding Plaintiff as that term is defined in 15 USC 1681a.
- 45. Such reports contained information about Plaintiff that was false, misleading, and inaccurate.
- 46.Trans Union negligently failed to maintain and/or follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of the information it

- reported to one or more third parties pertaining to Plaintiff, in violation of 15 USC 1681e(b).
- 47. After receiving Plaintiff's consumer dispute to the Errant Tradeline, Trans
  Union negligently failed to conduct a reasonable reinvestigation as required
  by 15 U.S.C. 1681i.
- 48. As a direct and proximate cause of Trans Union's negligent failure to perform its duties under the FCRA, Plaintiff has suffered actual damages, mental anguish and suffering, humiliation, and embarrassment.
- 49. Trans Union is liable to Plaintiff by reason of its violation of the FCRA in an amount to be determined by the trier fact together with her reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 USC 1681o.

#### **COUNT VI**

# WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT BY TRANS UNION

- 50. Plaintiff realleges the above paragraphs as if recited verbatim.
- 51.Defendant Trans Union prepared, compiled, issued, assembled, transferred, published, and otherwise reproduced consumer reports regarding Plaintiff as that term is defined in 15 USC 1681a.

- 52. Such reports contained information about Plaintiff that was false, misleading, and inaccurate.
- 53. Trans Union willfully failed to maintain and/or follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of the information that it reported to one or more third parties pertaining to Plaintiff, in violation of 15 USC 1681e(b).
- 54. After receiving Plaintiff's consumer dispute to the Errant Tradeline, Trans
  Union willfully failed to conduct a reasonable reinvestigation as required by
  15 U.S.C. 1681i.
- 55.As a direct and proximate cause of Trans Union's willful failure to perform its duties under the FCRA, Plaintiff has suffered actual damages, mental anguish and suffering, humiliation, and embarrassment.
- 56. Trans Union is liable to Plaintiff by reason of its violations of the FCRA in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact together with her reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 USC 1681n.

# PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff prays that this court grant judgment against Defendants and award Plaintiff the following:

- 1. The greater of statutory or actual damages;
- 2. Punitive damages;

- 3. Costs, interest and reasonable attorney's fees; and
- 4. Such other relief as the Court may deem appropriate.

DATED: July 23, 2020

/s/ Susan S. Lafferty SUSAN S. LAFFERTY, BPR #25961 ssl@laffertylawtn.com 1321 Murfreesboro Pike, Suite 521 Nashville, TN 37214 (615)878-1926 Attorney for Plaintiff